

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LXI NUMBER 12

DECEMBER 2008

## EBARC Meeting

December 12, 2008

7:30 p.m.

Installation of 2009 Officers  
Social, Show & Tell, Swap Meet



The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month  
at the Salvation Army, 4600 Appian Way, El Sobrante.

The Executive Board meets the Monday before each general meeting at 7:30 p.m.  
at the W6CUS club station, 3200 Macdonald Ave. Richmond.

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.  
Post Office Box 1393  
El Cerrito, CA 94530

*The Blown Fuse* is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for Jan. issue: **Monday**, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>

[Articles may be submitted by "snail" mail, by dictation over the 'phone 510-741-8227, or by e-mail to aa6xz@earthlink.net]

## December EBARC Meeting

At our general meeting Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, we'll have a social and the installation of 2009 officers. Also, please bring a holiday snack to share, and anything you might wish to "show and tell" or sell.

## Our Wonderful VEs Sharon Primbsch, Team Liaison

As this is being written, it's near Thanksgiving. I want to give a special thanks to all the ARRL Volunteer Examiners (VEs) on the EBARC / ORCA / ARCA team, who helped administer 72 exam elements during our test sessions this year. They are: John Wood, N6JDW; Ti Michelle Connelly, NJ6T; Varon Smith, WS6V; Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF; John Rabold, KS6M; Michael Hole, KG6DER; Joe Lee, W6DOB; Art McLaughlin, W6THD; David Haycock, KI6AWR; Gerald Foster, WP6EXV; Mark O'Brien, AF6FR; Dave Clemes, AE6PX; J. Ronald Damsen, NB6X; Bruce Gillis, KI6CYT; Don Linstad, K6VAI, Sanford Lavine, KO6JF; and Brian Torr, N6IY. Thank you all!

## 2009 EBARC Membership Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_ N T T+ G A E  
License Class (circle)

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (include area code) \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member? ☐ Yes ☐ No  
Membership Type ☐ Regular ☐ Family  
Blown Fuse delivery ☐ e-mail ☐ snail mail

Dues: Regular \$25, Family \$30, K-12 \$10

Mail to P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530

Additional family member name(s), call, and class  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please use the lines above to tell us your ham interests,  
and any non-ham skills or hobbies

## 4Cs/EBARC Holiday Party

The 4Cs/EBARC Holiday Party will be Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at Marie Callender's (2090 Diamond Blvd.) in Concord. Seating begins at 11:30 a.m. You must sign up in advance, choose your food, and pay by December 6<sup>th</sup>. Our advertiser, Ham Radio Outlet, generally donates some of the door prizes. Don't miss out! Contact Barbara Grazer at 510-222-4990.

## 2008 Field Day Results

**Peter Hoffman, W6DEI, Field Day Chair**

As always, the December issue of QST brings us this year's Field Day results and lets us see where we stacked up against our competition, i.e., the other radio clubs in North America. As usual, we did quite well. Our score of 7,160 put us in 1st place among all 3A-class stations in the Pacific Division and above the 90th percentile for all 338 stations participating as 3A entries (17th place overall in our class).

However, that doesn't tell the entire story. While well-constructed stations with high-gain antennas and first class contest operators ratchet up the point scores, an equally important aspect of Field Day is public relations. And although there's no strictly objective way of scoring our PR effectiveness I think we can take a lot of pride in the effort we put into this part of Field Day too. First we operate in one of the most populated public spaces in the East Bay, at Cesar Chavez Park in the Berkeley Marina. We put as much energy into running our GOTA station as we do into the CW, SSB, and PSK stations. Once again Sharon and her crew did a great job of making the general public feel welcome; talking to those who showed any curiosity and getting many of them to grab the mic and make their first ham radio contact.

As with ham radio in general, everyone brings unique skills and interests to Field Day. Whether your primary activity is emergency preparedness, DXing, rag chewing, building equipment, or contesting, Field Day will challenge you to exploit those skills and offer you a great opportunity to learn more about aspects of ham radio you might not normally be exposed to. So while Field Day, and contesting in general, may seem like a rather frivolous activity (and altogether too much fun) it's also one of the most effective means of improving all your ham radio skills. In a natural disaster I couldn't think of anyone I'd trust more with communications than one of those crazy contesters that seem to fill up the bands every other weekend all year round.

Thanks again to all who participated in EBARC's Field Day this year, and remember to set aside the last full weekend in June to help in our Field Day effort for 2009.

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## Treasurer's Report

**March/April/May 2008**

**Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer**

### OCTOBER INCOME

Regular Renewals: KG6ATH, AA6XZ, WD6GGC, NJ6T .....	\$100.00
Coffee Kitty Mar/Apr .....	14.37
Total Oct. Income .....	\$114.37

### OCTOBER DISBURSEMENTS

Blown Fuse Printing .....	\$14.62
Blown Fuse Postage (Sep) .....	17.22
Blown Fuse Postage (Oct) .....	15.54
AT&T (W6CUS phone) .....	25.13
Total Oct. Disbursements .....	\$72.51

### BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

Checking (General Fund) .....	\$3,727.92
Savings (Station Fund*) .....	\$3,314.43

\*\$1,169 earmarked for W6CUS Roofing Fund.

We are now collecting the dues for 2009 membership. Regular individual membership is \$25, family membership is \$30. Please include your call sign on your check.

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## EBARC Roster Update

**NEW MEMBER:** William J. Pridgen III does not have his license yet. He lives at 456 Coventry Rd. Kensington, CA 94707. His email address is [wjpridgen3@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wjpridgen3@sbcglobal.net). He's a retired RN.

# General Meeting Minutes

**November 14, 2008**

**Peter Hoffman, W6DEI, Secretary**

Randy announced that we will be teaching a General Class in Spring 2009 at the West Contra Costa Adult School and, in conjunction with ARCA & ORCA, another Tech Class next Fall in Alameda.

Randy also reported that the 4C's repeater is down again. The Marin ARC is offering the use of their repeater to 4C's members and will be loaning them a controller. The 4C's are holding a raffle for Drake twins.

Sharon announced a special VE session for the radio club at Washington Middle School on the 23rd of November.

Stanton reported that water service has been restored to the club station. Two toilets are now functioning. The heater is hooked up and working. And the refrigerator is stocked with water and sodas. Now we just need some members to take advantage of the facilities.

Peter reported that we received a bill from the 4C's for our share of the picnic, \$150.

Jack reported that Washington Middle School ARC has found a couple of teachers that are licensed hams. They are holding a fund-raising raffle (\$2/ticket) for a Wizard battery charger and subscription to QST magazine. More info available at their website [washingtonarc.org](http://washingtonarc.org).

Jack also mentioned that *World Radio* magazine has been sold to CQ. They are planning to continue publishing, but only an online edition. Subscriptions to *World Radio* might be transferred to CQ magazine.

Texx said he is still trying to reach the appropriate person at the Salvation Army to see if we can reserve the facilities for our Crab Feed in January. Tickets cannot be printed and sold until we have this confirmation. He

also reported that there is now a 10 meter beacon at the KRE radio station in Berkeley. The station is open to the public on Saturdays.

Ken reported that the Hornet is free for veterans through this weekend.

All veterans attending the meeting were asked to stand and receive the appreciation of all present for their service.

The following 2009 club officers were elected:

- President: Ken Fowler, KO6NO
- 1st VP, Program Chair: Texx Woodworth, KG6ATH
- 2nd VP, Hospitality Chair: Don Lindstad, K6VAI
- 3rd VP, Membership Chair: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ
- Secretary: Charles Hayes, AF6AB
- Treasurer: Gordy Parsons, NU6W

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## Future Bay Area Events

- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Robertson Park, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. Info: Robert 925-560-5646 (h). More info at [www.livermoreark.org/swap/swap.html](http://www.livermoreark.org/swap/swap.html)
- EBARC, ORCA, and ARCA sponsor joint ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions quarterly at 9 a.m. The dates for 2009 will probably be Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>, Apr. 26<sup>th</sup>, Jul. 26<sup>th</sup>, & Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>. Tests are in the Media Room, 1605 Martin Luther King Jr. Way (at 16<sup>th</sup> St.), Oakland. The 2009 test fee is \$15. For info call 510-846-1587 or 510-741-8227.
- CoCoCo RACES Training: Details at [www.cc-races.org](http://www.cc-races.org) or via RACES net, 6:45 p.m., Thursdays on 145.11 MHz.

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***KEEP YOUR BATTERIES CHARGED!***

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are \$25 for individual membership, \$30 for a family membership, and \$10 for students K-12. For information, call (510) 233-7509, contact any EBARC officer, see Web page [www.eastbayarc.org](http://www.eastbayarc.org), or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station, W6CUS, at 3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond. The packet station, W6CUS-1, is on 145.630 Mhz, and is linked to the EAST BAY LAN (EBAY) on 223.720 Mhz.

## 2008 EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD

Jack Burris, K6JEB, President & W6CUS Trustee ..... 415-305-2547  
 "Texx" Woodworth, KG6ATH, 1<sup>st</sup> VP - Program Chair..... 524-7452  
 Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Hospitality Chair, Education Chair... 526-4089  
 Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP - Membership / *Blown Fuse* Editor..... 741-8227  
 Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer / Finance Committee Chair..... 785-4290  
 Peter Hoffman, W6DEI, Secretary, Field Day Chair, Web Site Guru,  
 and Publicity Chair..... 525-0694  
 Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU, Club Station Manager, Member-at-Large .. 385-4044  
 Bob Bowling, K6ZLG, Member-at-Large ..... 233-5749  
 John Wood, N6JDW, "vacationing" Education Chair, Member-at-Large . 741-7050  
 Joe Lee, W6DOB, Silent Key Chair..... 724-0533  
 Awards Chair.....  
 Social & Digital Committees Chair.....  
 Legislative Affairs .....  
 RFI Committee Chair.....  
 Historian .....  
 Mark O'Brien, AF6FR, af6fr@yahoo.com, Ride Coordinator..... 650-776-1817

## AMATEUR RADIO NETS

NET	DAYS	LOCAL TIME	FREQ, MHZ
West Contra Costa County ARES/RACES Net	Thurs	1845 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
EBARC "Explore Net" (HF)	Mon	1930 (USB)	28.425
KARO/ECHO ARES/RACES Net	Thurs	~1900 simplex	146.415
NALCO RACES/ARES Net	Thurs	1915 (PL 131.8+)	440.900
Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net	Thurs	1930 (PL 77-)	146.880
Contra Costa Communications Club Net	Thurs	1930 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
Tech Net	Thurs	2000 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
"Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net	Mo-Fr	0710 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
Northern Calif. Net VHF Session	Daily	1930 (PL 107.2-)	145.410
"Going Home Group"	Mo-Fr	1600 (PL 82.5-)	145.110

Asst. EC West CoCoCo: Mike McMillan, K6MCM, mcmillan50y@yahoo.com, phone 510 223-3052.  
 Frequencies: #1=145.110-, #2=147.570s, [www.cc-races.org](http://www.cc-races.org).